



Attorney Docket No. DDR 5455 (1417B P 316)

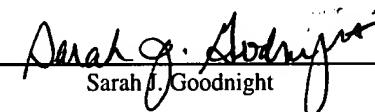
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Prior U.S. Patent Application of)
Arnold C. Bilstad, et al.)
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED)
COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE)
STERILE FIELD)
Prior Application No.: 09/294,964)
Prior Application Filed: April 20, 1999)
Examiner: I. Soubra)
Group Art Unit: 1744)

Certificate of Express Mailing

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**PETITION FOR THREE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)**

BOX CPA
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant in the above-identified Application requests a three (3) month extension of time in which to respond to the Final Office Action dated April 10, 2001. A shortened statutory period of time to respond was set to expire on July 10, 2001. With this Extension, the time to respond is now set at October 10, 2001. Applicant submits herewith a check in the amount of \$920.00 for the petition fee.

You are hereby authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 23-0280 for any payment deficiencies or overpayments with regard to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 4, 2001
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